

Little River Band of Ottawa Indians

RAPID RIVER NEWS

Mdaamin Giizis

November 21 2016

Opening on Tribal Election Board

Office Closure Information

It's Native American Heritage Month

Council Person Resigns

LETTER INSIDE

Hello and welcome to the Rapid River News.

So I am letting everyone know that I can only print in the Rapid River News, and the Currents too, that information made available to me.

Offices Closed for Thanksgiving Thursday and Friday

Tribal offices will be closed Thursday November 24th and Friday November 25th.

Have a very HAPPY THANKSGIVING

unless you have other plans...

Elders' Christmas Party Announced

ATTENTION

The Election Board has an opening due to the resignation of one of its members. The Ogema will need to appoint with Council approval a replacement for this seat. The Term of this seat ends in April of 2017. Tribal citizens interested in this appointment need to send a letter of interest to the Ogema. Send it to Ogema, 2608 Government Center Dr., Manistee, MI 49660. Note on envelope - re: Election Board.

A NOTICE FROM HUMAN RESOURCES

LRBOI Tribal Government has opportunities for temporary work assignments in both its Member's Assistance Department and Human Resources Department. Persons that have intermediate computer skills and office experience are sought to fill these temporary assignments. Positions will receive training once selected.

Please be aware that other departments may exercise the option to hire a temporary employee as needed, and will review the applications on file from those seeking a temporary appointment. Temporary appointments can work up to 29 hours per week. If you are interested, please file an application with Human Resources. You can obtain an application by contacting HR at (231) 398-6859, or via email to jobs@lrboinsn.gov.

Jessica L. Steinberg 4146 Siverly Rd

4146 Siverly Rd Brethren, MI 49619



November 7, 2016

Chair, Election Board Little River Band of Ottawa Indians 2608 Government Center Drive Manistee, MI 49660

My Dear Madame Chair,

I write to inform the Election Board that with a mix of sadness, yet happiness due to recent changes in my life, taking me in a new direction, that I resign from my seat as a Nine-County Representative on Tribal Council effective November 18, 2016.

It is indeed my pleasure to inform the Board that on October 23, 2016, I was married; this change has brought a new dimension into my life as my spouse works in Cairo, Egypt. After considerable discussion, we have determined that in the interest of family and our new marriage, I will relocate to Egypt where he resides at this time. I am certain Creator has a new direction for my life, guiding me in this change.

I leave the Little River Band with a great sense of accomplishment for the many years of service I have had the privilege to give to my people. I know there is more work to do; perhaps with the decision, it is Creator's manner of telling me it is time for new ideas and perspectives to rise in the form of a new person to fill the seat I will vacate. I am sad to leave, yet hopeful that a new creative voice will emerge, with vision and creativity to lead in a new direction our nation.

I wish to thank those who voted me into office; your trust has been humbling. I also wish those who come after me the best in their role as leader and legislator.

Hembers_

All My Relations.

Włingaszin, (I will see you agaiu),

lessica L. Steinberg (Burger)

CC: V. Johnson, Tribal Council Speaker
J. Riley, Tribal Council Recorder



Little River Band of Ottawa Indians 2608 Government Center Drive

Manistee, MI 49660

Phone (231) 723-8288 Election Board office (231) 398-6709

ELECTION BOARD

Terri Burmeister, Election Board Chairperson

DATE: November 18, 2016

TO: Tribal Ogema, Tribal Council, Tribal Court, Tribal Members FROM:

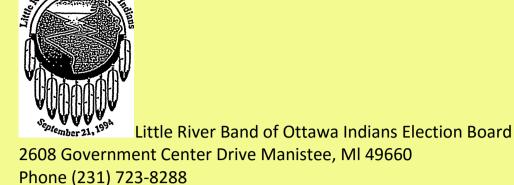
RE: Special Election, February 9, 2017

The Election Board has received the resignation of Jessica L. (Burger) Steinberg who is resigning from her 9-County seat on Tribal Council effective Friday, November 18, 2016.

According to the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Constitution Article X section . 4(b) if more than eighteen months remain in the term of office of an elected official, a special election shall be held within three (3) months after the vacancy occurs. Jessica's position on Tribal Council for the 9-County seat expires in April 2019. Therefore, the Election Board is officially declaring a Special Election to take place on February 9, 2017.

•The Election Board will be having office hours during the time period of Monday, December 5 through Wednesday, December 14, 2016 where Tribal Members will be given the opportunity to pick up Candidate Packets.

If you should have any questions, please feel free to ask. Thank you, Election Board



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Announcement of Special E-lection

Date of Election: February 9, 2017

Office to be Elected: Office of Tribal Council - Nine County District (one seat)

Procedure for Establishing Candidacy

For Candidates for the Office of Tribal Council-Nine County District. To run for the Office of Tribal Council in the Nine County District a Tribal Member must obtain, complete, and submit

-a Declaration of Candidacy packet during the period listed in the Election Calendar below.

Election Calendar

Declaration of Candidacy Packets available	December 5, 2016
Declaration of Candidacy Packets due	December 14, 2016
Background Checks Ce_rtified	December 22, 2016
··Slate of Candidates certified;:	;;January 5, 2017
Last day to withdraw candidacy	January 12, 2017 Ballots
mailed	January 19, 2017
Ballots due and Election Day	February 9, 2017 Deadline
for recounts, disputes, challenges	February 16, 2107 Deadline for
Special Election campaign financial report	February 16, 2017
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The Special Election will be conducted by secret mail ballot. The homes of registered

voters shall be designated as polls for voting purposes. You must be a registered voter with current mailing information on file with the Enrollment Department to receive a ballot. The ballot counting will be held in the Lodge at the Government Center, 2608 Government Center Drive, Maniste., MI. Ballot counting process begins.at 12:00.pm.

A copy of the Election Board Office ·Hours has been included in this mailing and will be from

Decem er 5, 2016 through December 4, 2016.

If a candidate wishes to have their photograph and biography included in the Newsletter, the candidate must include the photograph and biography in their candidate packet

The Tribal Constitution has recently been amended by a vote of the Membership. One of the

·Constitutional changes is that the Election Board is required·to perform background checks for the positions of Tribal Council, Tribal Ogema, and Tribal Judiciary. The background check paperwork must be filled out and turned in with your Declaration of Candidate Packet along with an \$80 fee to cover the cost of the background check service. Only cash and money orders will be accepted.

Please note: In accordance with the Election Board Regulations Chapter 2, section 1(d): "If Voter Registration Form is not received by the Election Board 60 calendar days before an election, the eligible voter will not be registered to vote in that election.

Last day to register to vote for the Special Election is December 12, 2016.

The Election Board is not responsible for the failure of an Eligible Voter to complete the registration requirements by the prescribed deadlines.

Registered Voters are responsible for maintaining their current physical/mailing address with the Enrollment Department. Ballots will be mailed to the address on file in the Enrollment Department.

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Board Office Hours December 2016	Wednesday		 	Manistee 3-5	14	Wanistee 11-5 Muskegon 11-2	21		78
oard Off	Tuesday		9		13		20		27
Election B	Monday		5	Muskegon 11-2	12	Wanistee 12-2	19		26
	Sunday		-4				18		
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THE OFFICE OF THE OGEMA HAS ANNOUNCED THE FOLLOWING DATES FOR THE CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR HOLIDAY GOVERNMENT OFFICES CLOSURE:

BEGINNING DECEMBER 23RD AT NOON THRU MONDAY JANUARY 2ND, 2017

Government Offices will be closed, as granted by the Ogema's Office, during the time of the Christmas Holiday. <u>The Health Clinic, CHS/EHAP Offices and Maajiidaa Fitness Center will be closed during that time.</u>

Health Operations is asking all of our clients/patients to plan ahead; we encourage you to **check your prescription bottles for refills** now, to see if the anticipated refill dates of the medications you may need falls during the closure. <u>If you will need a refill during the closure</u>, please notify the Clinic Office BEFORE DECEMBER 9th.

If you WILL NEED A PHYSICIAN TO WRITE A SCRIPT TO REFILL A MEDICATION (30 day supply *only* medications for example) please contact the Health Clinic **no later than Friday December** 9th so your request for refills can be processed <u>BEFORE</u> the holiday closure. **Do not wait until the last minute to call.** This will prevent you from running out of your medications during the holiday closure.

If you WILL NEED PRIOR AUTHORIZATION FOR AN ONGOING MAINTENANCE MEDICATION REFILL please notify CHS/EHAP **BEFORE DECEMBER 19**th so your medication purchase orders can be sent to your pharmacy **BEFORE** the holiday closure. The purchase orders will be dated for the due date of the medication, **not the date it is sent**. In other words, the prescriptions will be authorized to be filled when they are DUE, not earlier than that time.

If you WILL NEED A SPECIALTY MEDICAL VISIT OR PROCEDURE APPROVED WITH PROPER PRIMARY CARE PHYSICIAN (CLINIC) COORDINATION AND REFERRAL, please contact the CHS/EHAP offices no later than Friday December 16th; the purchase order will be sent to the provider for the date of anticipated service visit.

There will be NO staff available in Health Services beginning at Noon on December 23rd, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, and January 2nd, 2017. We will return to the office on Tuesday, January 3rd, 2017 at 8:00 am.

If you have a **MEDICAL EMERGENCY** during the office closure; go to your nearest Emergency Room or call 911.

If you need **EMERGENT/URGENT MEDICAL CARE FOR ILLNESS** during the office closure; go to your nearest Emergency Room or Urgent Care Clinic.



Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Election Board 2608 Government Center Drive Manistee. MI49660

Phone(231)723-8288

Announcement of General Election

Date of Election: April 28, 2017

Offices to be Elected: Office of Tribal Council- Nine County District (two seats)

Office of Tribal Council- At Large District (one seat)

Office of Tribal Council - Outlying (two seat)

Office of Election Board- (three seats)
Office of Appellate Judge- (one seat)

Procedures for Establishing Candidacy

For Candidates for the Office of Tribal Council-Nine County District, At-Large and Outlying District. To run for the Office of Tribal Council in the Nine County District, At-Large District and Outlying district, a Tribal Member must obtain, complete, and submit a Declaration of Candidacy packet during the period listed in the Election Calendar below.

For Candidates for the Office of Election Board. To run for the Election Board, a Tribal Member must obtain, complete, and submit a Declaration of Candidacy packet during the period listed in the Election Calendar below.

For Candidates for the Office of Appellate Judge. To run for the Office of Appellate Judge, a Tribal Member must obtain, complete, and submit a Declaration of Candidacy packet during the period listed in the Election Calendar below.

Election Calendar

Declaration of Candidacy Packets available	October 3, 2016
Declaration of Candidacy Packets due	
Background Checks Certified	
Slate of Candidates certified	December 12,2016
Last day to withdraw candidacy	December 19,2016
Ballots mailed out for Primary Election	January 13, 2017
Ballots due and Primary Election Day	February 10, 2017 Deadline for
Primary election recounts, disputes, challenges	February 17, 2107 Deadline for Withdrawal
of Candidate after Primary Election Februar	ry 27, 2017 Ballots mailed out for General
Election March 24, 2017	
Ballots due and General Election Day	

Deadline for General Election recounts, or	disputes, challenges	May 5, 2017 Deadlin	e for General
Election campaign financial report	May 5, 2017		

The Primary Election will be conducted by secret mail ballot. The homes of registered voters shall be designated as polls for voting purposes. You must be a registered voter with current mailing information on file with the Enrollment Department to receive a ballot. The ballot counting will be held in the Lodge at the Government Center, 2608 Government Center Drive, Manistee, MI. Ballot counting process begins at 12:00 .pm.

The General Election will be conducted by secret mail ballot and central polling place. The homes of registered voters shall be designated as polls for voting purposes. You must be a registered voter with current mailing information on file with the Enrollment Department to receive a ballot. The central polling place will be located in the Lodge at the Government Center, 2608 Government Center Drive, Manistee, MI. The hours for the polling place will be 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. The ballot counting will also take place in the Lodge and the counting process begins at 12:00 p.m.

A copy of the Election Board Office Hours has been included in this mailing and will be from October 3, 2016 through October 28, 2016.

If a candidate wishes to have their photograph and biography included in the Special Election Newsletter, the candidate must include the photograph and biography in their candidate packet.

The Tribal Constitution has recently been amended by a vote of the Membership. The Election Board will be posting revisions to the Chapter 3 and 4 Election Board Regulations to reflect the Constitutional amendments. If enacted, these changes to Chapter 3 and 4 will be in effect for this election.

One of the Constitutional changes is that the Election Board is required to perform background checks for the positions of Tribal Council, Tribal Ogema, and Tribal Judiciary. The background check paperwork must be filled out and turned in with your Declaration of Candidate Packet along with a fee to cover the cost of the background check service. The Election Board is researching check services and the amount of the fee will be included in the Candidate Packets. Only cash and money orders will be accepted.

Please note: In accordance with the Election Board Regulations Chapter 2, section 19d): "If Voter Registration Form is not received by the Election Board 60 calendar days before an election, the eligible voter will not be registered to vote in that election."

Last day to register to vote for the Primary Election is December 13, 2016. Last day to register to vote for the General Election is February 27, 2017.

The Election Board is not responsible for the failure of an Eligible Voter to complete the registration requirements by the prescribed deadlines.

Registered Voters are responsible for maintaining their current physical/mailing address with the Enrollment Department. Ballots will be mailed to the address on file in the Enrollment Department.



Little River Band of Ottawa Indians 2608 Government Center Drive Manistee, MI 49660 Phone (231) 723-8288

ELECTION BOARD

Recent amendments to the Tribal Constitution change the composition of the Tribal Council. Prior to these amendments, the Tribal Council seats were allocated as follows:

- Six of the members were elected by Tribal Members residing in the Nine-County area. The Nine-County area is made up of Kent, Lake, Manistee, Mason, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oceana, Ottawa, and Wexford Counties.
- Two of the members were elected by all of the Members of the Tribe. These Council seats are known as "At-large" seats.
- One of the members was elected by Tribal Members living outside the Nine-County area.
 This seat is known as the "Outlying" seat.

The proposed amendment would change the composition of the Tribal Council as follows:

- Four of the Council seats will be elected by Tribal Members residing in the Nine-County area.
- One of the Council seats will be At-Large.
- Four of the Council seats will be elected by Tribal Members residing in the Outlying area.

Another way to say this is that two Nine-County seats are being changed to Outlying seats, and one At-Large seat is being changed to an Outlying seat.

The Election Board is charged with implementing this change. This includes determining when the seats should be switched, and in what order.

In rules that are being posted this month, the Election Board has decided to make the changes in two steps. First, one Nine-County seat that is up for election will be switched to an Outlying seat in the 2017 General Election. Then, one Nine-County seat and one At-Large seat that are up in the 2019 General Election will be switched to Outlying seats. The following graphic shows how this will work:

Tribal Council Sea	ts Up for Vote	e in 2017 Election
Current	Change	New
3 Nine-County seats	(-1)	2 Nine-County seats
1 At-Large seat	0	1 At-Large seat
1 Outlying seat	+1	2 Outlying seats

Tribal Council Sea	ts Up for Vote	e in 2019 Election
Current	Change	New
3 Nine-County seats	(-1)	2 Nine-County seats
1 At-Large seat	(-1)	0 At-Large seats
0 Outlying seats	+2	2 Outlying seats

The Election Board's main reason for implementing the change in this way is so that there will be two Nine-County seats and two Outlying seats up in each future election. If the At-Large seat was switched to Outlying in 2017, then there would be three Outlying seats up in one election and one Outlying seat up in the next election, with this pattern repeating in future elections. Instead, there will be two Nine-County seats and two Outlying seats up in each future election. The lone At-Large seat would be up once every other election, just as the lone Outlying seat is now. The following graphic illustrates the new pattern:

Tribal C	ouncil Seats Up for Vote in 2021 Election
	2 Nine-County seats
	1 At-Large seat
	2 Outlying seats
Tribal C	ouncil Seats Up for Vote in 2023 Election
	2 Nine-County seats
	0 At-Large seat
	2 Outlying seats
Tribal C	ouncil Seats Up for Vote in 2025 Election
	2 Nine-County seats
	1 At-Large seat
	2 Outlying seats
Tribal C	ouncil Seats Up for Vote in 2027 Election
	2 Nine-County seats
	0 At-Large seat
	2 Outlying seats

Anishinaabemdaa simply means "Let's speak our language, Anishinaabemowin". This face book page is related to the website. We thought that we would try to do this on face book. Many indigenous people are on face book from all over North America. Many use the language whenever they can. We want to post phrases, teachings, stories, short lessons and a suggestion post, so if there is anything specific that you wish to learn, just let us know. We will also help out with the spelling of our language.

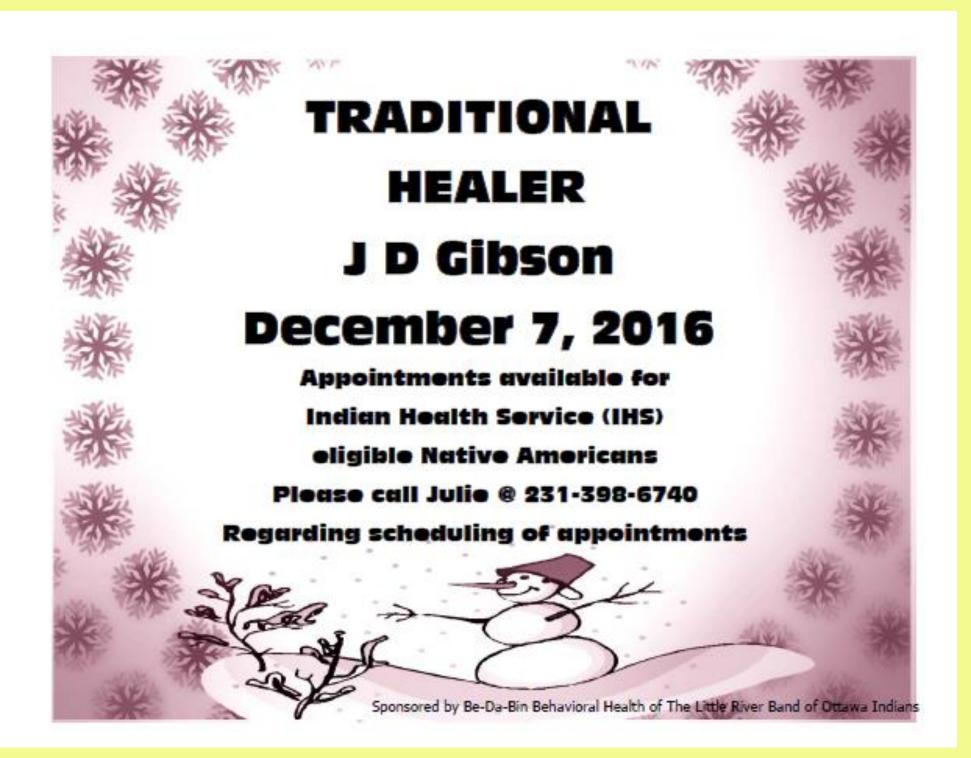
This face book page is designed to be of service to the public. Our website serves many thousands of people here in North America and we do get traffic from other parts of the world. Many schools, colleges and universities use it on a regular basis.

OFFICE CLOSURE OVER HOLIDAYS

The Ogema has issued a closure for the Tribal Offices over the Holidays. Please note the following dates:

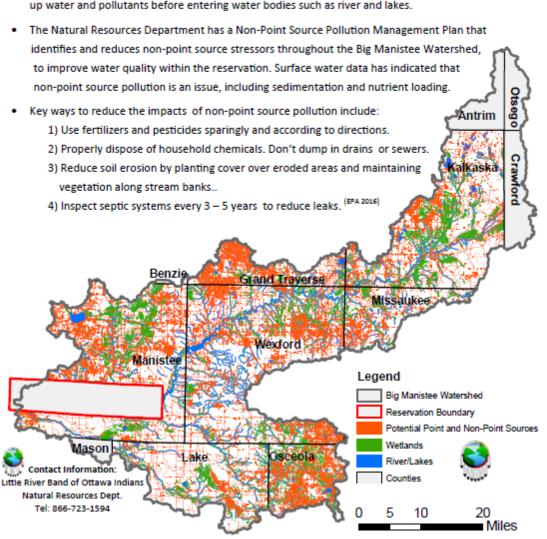
OFFICES WILL CLOSE ON DECMBER 23RD 2016 AT NOON AND WILL REMAIN CLOSED UNTIL JANUARY 3RD 2017.

Please conclude all needed appointments and other business items BEFORE the closure.



Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Wetlands Fact Sheet #3 Wetlands and Water Quality

- Wetlands can reduce pollution, however too much pollution can degrade wetland quality.
- Pollution is caused by two main sources: point and non-point sources. Point source pollution can be tracked to a single source (e.g., industrial discharge to a river) while non-point sources occur over a larger area, making it harder to attribute to a single source (e.g., agricultural fertilizers).
- Non-point source pollution reaches water bodies from storm and snowmelt runoff, picking up pollutants as runoff moves across the landscape. Natural areas such as wetlands act as sponges, soaking up water and pollutants before entering water bodies such as river and lakes.



HOUSING DEPARTMENT:

The Tribally funded Down payment and Closing Cost
Assistance program has been funded for this year, 2016.
Tribal Citizens can receive up to a combined maximum of
\$5,000.00. The combined maximum is based on 2.33%
for the down payment assistance up to \$3,500 and 1.00%
for closing cost assistance up to \$1,500. The assistance
is calculated on the total purchase price and the eligibility
criteria highlights are as follows.

- 1. Must be an enrolled member of LRBOI.
- 2. Must be at least 21 years old.
- 3. Must not currently own a home/residence.
- 4. Residence must be the borrower's permanent primary residence.
- 5. Must not have previously accessed funds under this or any other Tribal program that provides down payment and closing cost assistance.
- 6. Must be a single family residence.

If you are interested please contact Chad Gehrke in the Housing Department at 231-398-6878 or cgehrke@lrboi-nsn.gov.

INTERNSHIP and CAREER STUDIES ANNOUNCE-MENT:

Two programs are now available to help LRBOI Tribal Members and LRBOI Descendants acquire skills and knowledge to prepare for their future careers at LRCR.

What: Two different work programs are available, an INTERNSHIP

PROGRAM and a CAREER STUDIES PROGRAM, with a

limited number of positions available in each program.

Who: LRBOI Tribal Members and LRBOI Descendants, 18 and

older, are eligible to apply.

When: 12 week paid program begins after app oval process.

Where: there are TEMP positions open in both Members Assistance and HR. We are looking for Administrative Assistant temporary assignees right now. Up to 29 hours per week. Submit application and resume to jobs@lrboi-nsn.gov

Various Departments at Little River Casino Resort.

How: Submit application and then under go interview process to be approved.

INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

for Tribal Member and Descendant college students, in association with the internal internship

programs that are available

from their specific colleges.

CAREER STUDIES

PROGRAM – for Tribal Member and Descendant NON-college students.

This program is not for college credit, and the process is

managed entirely within LRCR.

FOUR positions are available in each program. Eligible applicants

Must submit all required documents to be considered.

Applicants must pass all pre-employment screening processes required

for all newly hired employees. Application packets are available

upon request Contact: Sandy Mezeske, Executive Administrative

Assistant Tribal and Organizational Development Department

of Little River Casino Resort sandym@lrcr.com 1-231-398-4029

Enrollment Notices and Notes

The Enrollment Department would like to remind Tribal Members that the qualifying period to sign up or cancel the **Voluntary Federal Income Tax Withholding** from your Per Cap payments is October 1st through December 31st. 15% federal income tax will be withheld from each payment if a Member decides to sign up. Once a Member volunteers to the withholding or cancels, it shall be permanent until April of the following year.

We would also like to remind Tribal Members that <u>Direct Deposit</u> is available for your PerCap payments. This will ensure that you get your payment on the day the payment is made. For direct deposits forms to be valid your address must be up to date with the Enrollment Department. Please make sure your routing/account numbers are correct with your financial institution before submitting a form. Remember this form has to be notarized and must be submitted 30 days before the payment date.

We recently did a mailing on <u>Bereavement Beneficiary forms and Per Cap Beneficiary forms</u>. These forms designate who you want the \$7500 Bereavement Benefit and last Per Cap payment to be paid to. Both of these form have to be notarized. If there is no form on file the distribution of funds will be determined by the Tribal Court.

If you have any questions or would like one of the forms mailed to you please contact the Enrollment Department. We can be contacted by calling toll free at (888) 723-8288 or can be contacted directly at (231) 398-6712 for Diane, (231) 398-6713 for Jessica or (231) 398-6720 for Merri. All of the forms are also available on the website.

LITTLE RIVER BAND OF OTTAWA INDIANS ELDERS CHRISTMAS PARTY

Little River Casino Resort Event Center

Saturday, December 3, 2016

Lunch at 12:00 p.m.

Items for the voluntary gift exchange may be labeled MAN OR WOMAN and placed on the tables provided.

This space was left blank, well it is actually not blank because I wrote it was left blank in the space so the space is technically not blank but I can say This space left blank except for this notice about it being blank.

Anyway, I hope you also enjoy the empty space.